



Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to inform you that the County Council as Mineral Planning Authority has approved a request by Gallagher Aggregates Ltd for extended operating hours at Blaise Farm Quarry to supply an urgent Brexit related contract for the Ashford Inland Port Project subject to the following conditions:

1. The additional hours (i.e. between 6:00 and 07:00 hours and 18:00 and 21:00 hours Monday to Friday and between 6:00 and 07:00 hours and 13:00 and 16:00 hours on Saturdays) shall only be used for the arrival, loading and dispatch of HGVs associated with the contract for the delivery of minerals for the foundation layer of the Ashford Inland Port Project.
2. The additional hours shall only be used for the duration of the contract and all operations during the additional hours shall cease no later than 31 December 2020.
3. Gallagher Aggregates Ltd shall notify KCC Planning Applications Group in advance of the actual dates for the commencement of the out of hours operations and of the actual cessation (when known).
4. HGVs shall use the A228 (north of the quarry) to access Junction 4 of the M20 whenever this is possible. If it is not possible (e.g. it is closed), HGVs shall use the A228 (south of the quarry), A26, B2016 (Seven Mile Lane), A20 and M26 to access the M20.
5. Gallagher Aggregates Ltd shall instruct HGV drivers not to travel through local villages (e.g. Offham, West Malling and Mereworth) and to use designated lorry parks or secured facilities at Blaise Farm Quarry and the delivery site at Ashford for overnight parking and take measures as necessary to secure compliance.

The decision was made by Head of Planning Applications under officer delegated powers following discussions with the Chairman of KCC's Planning Applications Committee (Alan Marsh), the relevant KCC local Members (Sarah Hohler, Matthew Balfour and Trudy Dean) and senior officers. The decision will be reported to the next meeting of KCC's Planning Applications Committee scheduled for 2 September 2020.

Please note that in coming to this decision considerable weight was given to the exceptional circumstances and the urgent need for the Brexit related Ashford Inland Port Project to be supplied with aggregates within associated Government timescales and the fact that it was not possible to secure any formal planning permission in time to facilitate the proposed operations. For your information, please also note that the request was not supported by all local Members and that a number of conditions were imposed to address their concerns.

Yours faithfully

For Sharon Thompson (Head of Planning Applications)